

**STATE BOARD ADVISORY PANEL
FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Arizona State Advisory Panel for Special Education held a meeting at the Arizona Dept. of Education, 1535 W. Jefferson, Room 417, Phoenix, Arizona, on June 21, 2011, from 9:30 am – 3:30 p.m.

Members Present

Lisa Bernier
Ronald L. Clanton
Susan Douglas
Gail Jacobs, Ed.D.
Sharon Lynch
Dr. Ida Malian
Kathy McDonald
Kimberly A. Peaslee
Terisa Rademacher, Co-chair
Ralph Tillapaugh
Kay B. Turner, Ed.D, Vice-Chairperson
Valerie VanAuker
Nancy K. Williams, Co-Chair

Others Present

Cyndi Bolewski, ADE/ESS
Jeannette Zemeida, ADE/ESS

Members Absent

Lisa Aaroe
Molly Bright
M. Diane Bruening, Ed.D.
Dave Graham
Robert Hill, Ed.S.
Angela Levin
Laura Schweers
Kim Simmons

Minutes Approved (As Read)(As Amended)

Chairperson: _____

Signature

Date

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
1. Call to order.	Terisa Rademacher, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.	1. None.
2. Approval of May 17, 2011 minutes.	<p>Dr. Gail Jacobs made a motion which was seconded by Ron Clanton to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2011 meeting.</p> <p>Nancy Williams suggested a change to the minutes; Page 10, 2nd paragraph:</p> <p><i>Public comment shared by a SEAP member was viewed negatively and resulted in a rather inappropriate e-mail response from one of the ICC members.</i></p> <p>Ms. Williams did not feel that the e-mail discussed at the May meeting was inappropriate and asked that the word "inappropriate" be stricken from the minutes.</p> <p>Dr. Gail Jacobs made a motion which was seconded by Ron Clanton to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2011 meeting, as amended.</p> <p>The motion was approved.</p>	2. Motion carried.
3. Public comment.	<p>Nancy Williams welcomed the public in attendance. She explained to those present the procedures for making a comment. Anyone wishing to comment on an agenda item was asked to fill out a brief questionnaire stating which agenda item they wished to comment on. That person would then be called on when that item was discussed. Anyone wishing to comment on an item not on the agenda was asked to come forward at that time.</p> <p><i>Public Comment: Molly Bright addressed the Panel regarding the May 17, 2011 SEAP minutes. Ms. Bright is a current member of SEAP, however she was unable to attend the entire meeting so chose to speak to the Panel as an individual. As a member of the Panel, Ms. Bright receives a draft copy of the previous meeting's minutes prior to the upcoming meeting. Ms. Bright addressed her concerns regarding the reporting in Section 7: Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP).</i></p>	3. None.
4. Arizona's Open Meeting Law (ML) Training	The item was tabled and will be rescheduled for the November SEAP meeting.	4. None.
5. Arizona Department of Education (ADE), Exceptional Student Services (ESS)	<p>Cynthia Bolewski, Director, Arizona Department of Education, Exceptional Students Services (ADE/ESS) reported to the Panel.</p> <p>The updated State Performance Plan/Arizona Performance Report (SPP/APR) has been printed. SEAP members were given copies of the document.</p>	5. Motion carried.

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	<p>Ms. Bolewski received an e-mail from the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) giving Arizona its Determination for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2009. Arizona received the "Meets Requirements" rating. She has the letter that explains how OSEP made their determination and the Response Table that will guide Arizona for the next year.</p> <p>The Directors Institute will be held on August 29-31, 2011. It will be at the Wigwam Resort.</p> <p>Arizona's Eleventh Annual Transition Conference will be held on October 3-5, 2011. It will be held at the Talking Stick Resort. Professional registration is full; however a waiting list has been created. Registration for youth, young adults and family members is still available.</p> <p>The Annual Special Education Data Collection is due July 29, 2011.</p> <p>Ms. Bolewski recently attended a SPP/APR Summit related to reviewing and designing new improvement activities for the SPP/APR. It was sponsored by Mountain Plains Regional Resource Center (MPRRC). All the states in the MPRRC area were represented. The knowledge that Ms. Bolewski gained at the training will help ESS staff to develop more measureable improvement activities. Ms. Lisa Andrew, Director, Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD), ESS also attended.</p> <p>There have been updates to the FFY 2010 APR. Ms. Bolewski reported on the following Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Indicator 4 – Suspension/ExpulsionIndicator 5 – School-Aged PlacementsIndicator 6 – Preschool PlacementsIndicator 9 – Racial/Ethnic DisproportionalityIndicator 10 – Racial/Ethnic Disproportionality by Disability <p>Ms. Bolewski began working on the new SPP/APR soon after the 2009 SPP/APR was submitted. She shared a draft of the initial data for the above-mentioned Indicators.</p> <p>Data collected for Indicator 4 is collected from the prior school year data. ESS has reviewed the data for Indicators 4A and 4B. No Public Education Agencies (PEAs) were flagged for significant discrepancy. Arizona will be able to report for these indicators at 0 percent. Indicator 4B is a 0% indicator.</p> <p>Indicator 5 data was collected from the October 1, 2010 child count. The states haven't received any new directions from OSEP for the FFY 2010 APR. Possible changes to the Indicator could be provided at the OSEP Leadership Conference in August.</p>	

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	<p>Arizona did not meet the targets for 5B and 5C.</p> <p>Kim Peaslee asked Ms. Bolewski to provide the breakdown of student groups that are included in Indicator 5C. She will bring the information to the September meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Bolewski informed the Panel that information from OSEP said the States would be submitting data for Indicator 6 for the first time in the FFY 2010 APR. However, in the Response Table that was received with the Determination Letter, OSEP indicated that states will not be reporting on this data in the next year's APR.</p> <p>Prior to receiving the Response Table, Ms. Bolewski had collected data for Indicator 6 and shared the draft information with the Panel.</p> <p>Panel members discussed the difficulty of collecting data for Preschool Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).</p> <p>Data for Indicators 9 and 10 are considered current year data and are collected from the most recently-ended school year.</p> <p>There was one PEA that was flagged for Indicator 9. The PEA was flagged for under-identification of white students and over-identification for Hispanic students. ADE sent the PEA a memo asking them to review their Policies, Procedures and Practices (PP & P) to analyze the cause of the disproportionality.</p> <p>There were 8 PEAs that were flagged for Indicator 10. These PEAs have been previously flagged for this Indicator. These PEAs have generally been flagged for over-identification of white students and under-identification of Hispanic students. The PEAs have also been notified by ADE and will be reviewing their evaluation processes. Some PEAs in this category have been flagged multiple years. Ms. Peaslee informed the group that the over/under identification of students may be caused by group homes within a PEA's boundaries.</p> <p>The final review of the policies, procedures, and practices isn't completed for Indicators 9 and 10. The deadline for collecting the data from the reviews is November 1, 2011.</p> <p>Ms. Bolewski fielded questions from the Panel.</p>	
6. Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)	The Autism Survey Results haven't been sent out to the field via the ESS Special Education Directors Listserv.	6. Motion carried.

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	<p>The Survey Results need to be reviewed by Joan McDonald, the new Deputy Associate Superintendent, ESS, prior to going out on the listserv.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher reviewed the upcoming SEAP term expirations.</p> <p>Panel members discussed the Annual Report. The purpose of the Annual Report is to reflect upon the work of the Panel. It is also a reporting requirement.</p> <p>Dr. Kay Turner made a motion that "Let the SPP and APR, in conjunction with the SEAP minutes, be the SEAP Annual Report."</p> <p>Susan Douglas seconded the motion.</p> <p>Panel discussion followed the motion. The format of a short report outlining activities, recommendations and actions was suggested and discussed.</p> <p>Dr. Turner amended her motion to read: "At the September meeting, the Panel will review the 2010-2011 SEAP minutes and use time during the meeting to create a one-page summary."</p> <p>Ron Clanton seconded the motion.</p> <p>Dr. Turner withdrew her motion and proposed a new motion. Dr. Turner moved that, "During the SEAP September 2011 meeting the Panel will review the 2010-2011 SEAP minutes. The Panel will highlight the salient points for the year. The highlights will be bulleted and compiled into a report, no more than 2 pages, and submitted as the SEAP Annual Report to the Arizona State Board."</p> <p>Lisa Bernier seconded the motion.</p> <p>The motion was approved.</p> <p>Panel members discussed adding the review of Panel activities as a standing agenda item.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher's term will be ending June 30, 2011. She joined the Panel in 1998. As her son has aged out, Ms. Rademacher will not be able to reapply to the Panel. Panel members acknowledged her many years of service and thanked her.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher reviewed the duties of the co-chair. This is typically a two-year term. In order to maintain the continuity of leadership, the co-chair elections are staggered. However, with Ms. Rademacher's departure an election was needed in order to fill the position for the</p>	

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	<p>remainder of the term. Ms. Rademacher opened the floor for nominations of the co-chair. Sue Douglas nominated Dr. Kay Turner for the position. Dr. Ida Malian seconded the nomination. Dr. Turner was elected to complete the remaining one year on the co-chair position.</p> <p>The co-chair position currently held by Ms. Nancy Williams was up for re-election. This is a two-year term. Ms. Rademacher opened the floor for nominations of the co-chair. Dr. Turner nominated Ms. Williams for the position. Ms. Williams was re-elected for the position of co-chair.</p> <p>Ms. Rademacher reviewed the duties of the vice chairperson. This is a one-year term. Ms. Rademacher opened the floor for nominations of the vice chairperson. Nancy Williams nominated Ron Clanton for the position. Susan Douglas nominated Dr. Gail Jacobs for the position. Panel members voted by written ballot. Dr. Jacobs received the majority of the votes and was elected for the position of vice chairperson.</p> <p>During a prior meeting Panel members agreed to create and send a position letter to the Arizona State Board of Education regarding Indicator 1 (Graduation Rate) of the SPP/APR.</p> <p>Recap: The current calculation of Indicator 1 has the Panel concerned. The current graduation rate is based on a 4-year cohort. Students who graduate after their 4-year cohort are not counted in the graduation rate should they graduate at a later time. As some students are left out of this calculation of the graduation rate, an accurate reflection of a school's graduation rate isn't captured. Schools are penalized on their Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) for graduation rates reported at the lower 4-year cohort calculation.</p> <p>Ms. Bolewski reported to the Panel that the Position Letter should not be addressed to the Arizona State Board of Education. She discussed the letter with Carol Massanari, MPRRC. Ms. Massanari recommended that the letter be addressed to Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education at the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE). A copy of the letter should also be sent to Melody Musgrove, the Director of the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) at USDOE and to Alexa Posny, the Assistant Secretary at the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) at USDOE.</p> <p>Ms. Bolewski gave the Panel some background information about reporting and collecting the data for Indicator 1 prior to the SPP FFY 2008. The measurement was changed to align reporting data with the ESEA. She recommended that the Panel's bottom line of recommendation ask that all graduating special education students be counted, regardless of the amount of time it took them to do so.</p> <p>Panel members reviewed and edited the Position Letter drafted by Dr. Turner.</p>	

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	<p><i>Kathy McDonald left the meeting at 1:25 pm.</i></p> <p>Panel members reviewed and edited the cover letter intended for the Arizona State Board of Education.</p> <p>Ron Clanton made a motion to accept the letters, as edited, and submit them.</p> <p>Dr. Turner seconded the motion.</p> <p>The motion was approved.</p>	
8. Members Reports from the Field	<p>Dr. Ida Malian. Would like to be on the SEAP agenda in the Fall to report on the curriculum changes that are taking place at the state universities.</p> <p>Dr. Kay Turner. Was asked by her boss, "Why didn't district special education students make AYP?"</p> <p>Teri Rademacher. There are a lot of concerns about graduation in the Yuma area and the State of Arizona. Another issue is in the area of safety for students in the classroom.</p> <p>Nancy Williams. Teachers across the state have had their salaries frozen or reduced. Career Ladder money is being decreased. Class sizes are becoming larger.</p> <p>Sue Douglas. AYP is somewhat easier for charter schools because the student count is lower. The math test baseline was reset last year which made it easier to meet AYP in math for most schools. The new math test has a lot of reading in it.</p> <p>Ms. Douglas met with Raising Special Kids staff recently. She let them know about the challenges that charter schools face with special education students since charter schools have fewer staff than district schools.</p> <p>Lisa Bernier. Will be going to Indonesia with a couple of colleagues for 2 weeks. They will be conducting trainings for schools that want to start their own special needs programs. They will also be meeting with parent groups.</p> <p>Ron Clanton. Will be attending the National Foster Parents Association Summit in Mobile, AL. There will be a full track on disabilities issues, including education.</p> <p>Toyota is conducting a 100 Days, 100 Cars for Charity on Facebook. Each day they have 5</p>	8. None

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	charities to select from. The charity with the highest votes each day will receive a car. There was a charity from the Phoenix area in the running for a car on the day of the SEAP meeting. Individuals can vote once a day.	
	The Department of Developmental Disabilities will be cutting respite hours by 50% beginning July 1, 2011.	
7. Adjournment.	<p>The next SEAP meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2011.</p> <p>Suggested topics for future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Open Meeting Law -- NovemberState Performance Plan/Annual Performance ReportEarly Childhood ReportReview of 2010-2011 SEAP Minutes for Annual ReportTASE, John CopenhaverOverview of Curriculum ChangesCommon Core Standards Overview -- SeptemberInvite Superintendent Huppenthal <p>The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.</p>	7. Adjournment.

Summary of Panel Advisement:

Co-chairs/Vice chair input here